

~~SECRET~~

*John*  
*Walter with letter*  
*James is drafting, Walter*  
*may have to me & on board for Feb.*  
*May 2 N.A.M.*  
*2.*  
*file*  
*N10*

4 December 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, OPR

25X1A

SUBJECT : The Spanish Succession Question

*Lew -*

1. Attached are the Director's comments about [REDACTED] recent study. Like others, he found it interesting and informative but was rather more startled than most would be over the possibility of real troubles of the post-Franco era. The way Portugal surprised us all no doubt is a factor. In any case, he wants some form of interagency consideration of this question as you will note.

2. I don't have any firm ideas about how to proceed. I know that neither INR nor OCI has anybody capable of writing an estimate on this subject, and it looks like [REDACTED] would be the logical choice. An NIE or interagency memorandum could be fairly readily adapted from this text, possibly deleting some of the detail, accelerating the pace of some of the prose so it reads faster, and expanding key judgments with a few more specifics on likely scenarios in the short, medium, and longer terms.

25X1A

3. In any case would you, [REDACTED] Irene give this some thought and let's then consult on procedures.

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25X1A

[REDACTED]  
National Intelligence Officer  
for Western Europe

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DCI/DDCI  
Routing Slip

NIO

TO:

74-6463

		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	LC		
2	DDCI			12	IG		
3	S/MC			13	Compt	NIO # 2665-74	
4	DDS&T			14	Asst/DCI		
5	DDI		✓	15	AO/DCI		
6	DDA			16	Ex/Sec		
7	DDO		✓	17			
8	D/DCI/IC			18			
9	D/DCI/NIO	✓		19			
10	GC			20			

SUSPENSE

Date

Remarks:

I confess having been a bit surprised at the prediction of fairly early troubles in this succession. Perhaps it was only my own lack of knowledge, but would it be useful to produce an interagency review or NIE of this important subject so we can anticipate another Portugal if it's ahead or generate action to prevent it.

DCI/DDCI  
5/2/74

*BEST COPY*

*Available*